HOUSE BILL 2634 By West

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 36-3-619, relative to state certified security officers/guards.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 36-3-619, is amended by designating the existing language in subsection (b) as subsection (c), redesignating subsequent subsections appropriately and by adding the following language as a new subsection (b):

(b) If a state certified security officer/guard who is properly registered under Title 62, Chapter 35, has probable cause to believe that two (2) or more persons committed a misdemeanor or felony, or if two (2) or more persons make complaints to the state certified security officer/guard, the state certified security officer/guard shall try to determine who was the primary aggressor. Arrest is the preferred response only with respect to the primary aggressor. The state certified security officer/guard shall presume that arrest is not the appropriate response for the person or persons who were not the primary aggressor(s). If the state certified security officer/guard believes that all parties are equally responsible, the state certified security officer/guard shall exercise his/her best judgment in determining whether to arrest all, any or none of the parties. Any state certified security officer/guard who has probable cause to believe a violation of this subsection or any assault or violence involving domestic abuse or violence has occurred must report such violation and protect any person involved. The state certified security

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officer/guard shall report such violation to the local law enforcement agency as soon as practicable.

SECTION 2. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 36-3-619, is further amended in the existing subsection (d) by deleting the language "A law enforcement officer shall not:" and by substituting instead the language "A law enforcement officer or a state certified security officer/guard under Title 62, Chapter 35, shall not:".

SECTION 3. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 36-3-619, is further amended in the existing subsection (c) by deleting the language "the officer shall consider:" and by substituting instead the language "the officer or security guard/officer shall consider:".

SECTION 4. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.

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